**Press Release: Security Cabinet Statement**

Israel Prime Minister’s Office

February 7, 2021

<https://www.gov.il/en/departments/news/spoke_cabinet070221>

The Security Cabinet completely rejects the scandalous decision of the court that could enable the investigation of Israel for false war crimes.

The Cabinet determines that the court has no authority to make such a decision. Israel is not a member of the international court and the Palestinian Authority does not have the status of a state.

The international court was established to prevent horrors such as those that were perpetrated by the Nazis against the Jewish people. Instead, it is persecuting the state of the Jewish people.

Even as it allows the investigation of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East that is committed to the rule of law, the court shuts its eyes to the awful war crimes being perpetrated time and again by dark dictatorships such as Iran and Syria.

The claim that Jews living in their homeland and their capital of Jerusalem constitutes a war crime is scandalous. Also, the claim that the IDF – there is no more ethical army – is carrying out war crimes even as it protects us from terrorists that launch rockets at our cities – is no less scandalous.

The judges’ decision exposes the court as a political body aligned with international organizations that are motivated by antisemitism.

The Security Cabinet instructs the relevant elements to take the necessary steps to protect the interests of the state and to defend its citizens and soldiers.”